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Saturday will extend from ten to one o'clock; afternoon sessions Friday and Saturday from two thirty to five thirty. The president's address will be given at the opening of the session on Friday afternoon, and will be followed by a series of invited papers on "Trade Routes."

THE American Society of Mechanical Engineers will hold its annual meeting in New York city from December 5 to 9. The report of the committee on elimination of waste in industry of the American Engineering Council will provide the basis for the discussion.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Norwegian Störthing has awarded the Nobel peace prize for 1921 to Dr. Elis Strömgren, professor of astronomy at the University of Copenhagen, for his efforts to effect reconciliation among scholars of European countries.

DR. T. C. CHAMBERLIN, of the University of Chicago, has been made a corresponding member of the Stockholm and Belgian Geological Societies.

DR. SIMON FLEXNER, the director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, has been elected a corresponding member of the Vienna Society of Physicians.

PROFESSOR GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY, of Yale University, first director of the American School in France for Prehistoric Studies, has been elected a corresponding member of the Société Archéologique et Historique de la Charente.

DR. JOHN B. WHITEHEAD, dean of the engineering school and professor of electrical engineering at Johns Hopkins University, has been awarded the five thousand francs prize of the Institut Electrotechnique Montefiore of Liège, Belgium, bestowed every three years for original work on the scientific advancement in the technical application of electricity. The prize was given for an essay on "The Corona Voltmeter and the Electric Strength of Air."

THE Jenner Memorial Medal of the Royal Society of Medicine has been conferred on

Sir Shirley Murphy in recognition of his work in epidemiological research.

THE University of Cambridge has presented an address to Dr. G. D. Liveing, St. John's College, formerly professor of chemistry, to commemorate the fact that he has kept by residence every term in the university for the last seventy-five years. Dr. Liveing became fellow of St. John's College in 1853, and professor of chemistry in 1861.

PRESIDENT LIVINGSTON FARRAND, of Cornell University, was elected president of The American Child Hygiene Association at its annual convention in New Haven, on November 5.

PROFESSOR FILIBERT ROTH, head of the department of forestry of the University of Michigan, was recently appointed by Governor Groesbeck as a member of the State Commission of Conservation. Professor Roth represents on the commission the forestry interests of the state.

DAVID LUMSDEN, formerly assistant professor of floriculture at Cornell University and during the last two years director of Agricultural Reconstruction at Walter Reed General Hospital, has been appointed horticulturist in the Office of Foreign Plant Quarantines, Federal Horticultural Board, Washington, D. C.

MESSRS. J. E. Walters, F. W. Schroeder, and Frank Porter, chemists at the helium plant of the Bureau of Mines at Petrolia, Texas, have been transferred to the new cryogenic laboratory of the bureau in Washington.

MR. EARLE E. RICHARDSON, who has been instructing in analytical chemistry and physics for the past four years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been appointed research physicist under Mr. L. A. Jones at the research laboratories of the Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N. Y.

MR. ALLEN ABRAMS has resigned as research associate from the research laboratory of applied chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to become chief chemist for the Cornell Wood Products Co.

DR. L. I. SHAW, assistant chief chemist of the Bureau of Mines, has been transferred to the Columbus, Ohio, ceramic experiment station of the bureau, where he will have charge of some newly organized research on refractory products.

WILSON POPENOE, agricultural explorer for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has returned to Washington after a two years' absence in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile. Mr. Popenoe has sent to Washington from these countries living material of numerous food-plants, including new varieties of the avocado for trial in California and Florida, several promising species of Rubus, the pejobaye palm (*Guilielma utilis*) of Costa Rica, a collection of potatoes from Ecuador and Colombia, and a superior variety of the Andean cherry (*Prunus salificolia*).

PROFESSOR FRANZ DOFLEIN, now at the Zoological Institute at Breslau, Germany, is completing a revision of his "Lehrbuch der Protozoenkunde." He finds it difficult to secure in Germany access to American papers in the field of protozoology published since 1916 and will welcome the sending, from investigators in this field, of reprints of their papers.

PROFESSOR HENRY NORRIS RUSSELL, of Princeton University, spoke before the Physical Colloquium of the Western Electric Company in New York, recently, on the subject "Ionization in the Stars."

PROFESSOR J. H. WALTON, of the department of chemistry of the University of Wisconsin, lectured before the Milwaukee Section of the American Chemical Society on November 18 on "The influence of impurities on the rate of growth of certain crystals."

At a joint meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences, the Biological Society of Washington and the Botanical Society of Washington on November 12, Professor Arthur de Jacewski, director of Institute of Mycology and Pathology at Petrograd, delivered an address on "The development of mycology and pathology in Russia"; Professor Nicholas I. Vavilov, director of the Bureau of Applied

Botany and Plant Breeding at Petrograd, delivered an address on "Russian work in genetics and plant breeding," and Dr. Vernon L. Kellogg, permanent secretary of the National Research Council, led a discussion on "The interrelations of Russian and American scientists."

DR. HEBER D. CURTIS, director of the Allegheny Observatory, lectured before the Franklin Institute at Philadelphia on November 16 on "The spiral nebulae and their interpretation." On the following day he lectured before the Washington Academy of Sciences on "The sun, our nearest star."

THE series of lectures on "The evolution of man" under the auspices of the Yale chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi will include a lecture on "The evolution of intelligence" by the president of the university, Dr. James R. Angell.

THE winter course of popular scientific lectures before the Royal Canadian Institute at Toronto was inaugurated on October 29 by a lecture entitled "Some aspects of economic entomology," by Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is the purpose of the institute to have scientific men from the United States deliver lectures in this course during the coming season.

PROFESSOR DOUGLAS W. JOHNSON, of Columbia University, delivered a lecture on the "Topography and strategy of the Western Front" before the officers of the Naval War College at Newport, on October 28. On November 1 he addressed the New York Post of the Society of American Military Engineers on "Geology and topography in relation to the strategy and tactics of the Great War."

WE learn from *Nature* that the 168th session of the Royal Society of Arts will be opened on Wednesday, November 2, at 8 P.M., when Mr. Alan A. Campbell Swinton, chairman of the council, will deliver an experimental address on "Wireless telegraphy." Among the papers fixed for the meetings up to Christmas are the following: The work of the industrial fatigue research board, by D. R.

Wilson; Modern buildings in Cambridge and their architecture, by T. H. Lyon; The coming of age of long-distance wireless telegraphy and some of its scientific problems (Sir Henry Trueman Wood Lecture), by Professor J. A. Fleming; and The preservation of stone, by Noel Heaton.

AN inter-allied exhibition of hygiene will take place in Strasbourg on May 1, 1923, on the occasion of the centenary of Pasteur's birth. The commissioner general is Professor Borrel, the secretary general M. Emile Henry.

A SENATE joint resolution by Senator Heflin of Alabama would authorize that \$50,000 be spent in the erection of a monument in the city of Washington to Major-General William C. Gorgas, former surgeon-general of the army, in commemoration of the services rendered by him to humanity.

RAYNER M. BEDELL, electrical engineer, brother of Professor Frederick Bedell, of Cornell University, died of tetanus on November 5, at Montclair, N. J.

DR. MERWIN PORTER SNELL, a member of the scientific staffs of the Smithsonian Institution and the Bureau of Fisheries in the years 1881-1889, died at his home at Stamford, Connecticut, on September 23, 1921, at the age of fifty-eight years.

THE death is announced on October 29 of William Speirs Bruce, the oceanographer and polar explorer.

DR. FRANCIS ARTHUR BAINBRIDGE, university professor of physiology at St. Barthomew's Hospital, died on October 27th at the age of eighty-six years.

ETIENNE BOUTROUX, professor of philosophy at the Sorbonne since 1885, died in Paris on November 22, at the age of seventy-six years. During 1910 M. Boutroux delivered a series of lectures at Harvard University.

THE death is reported from Paris, at the age of seventy-two years, of the French engineer, M. Albert Sarpiaux, who had long been connected with the scheme for the construction of a tunnel under the English Channel.

DR. PIERRE HENRI SOILLIER, honorary professor of the Lyons Medical Faculty and corresponding member of the Academie de Médecine, has died at the age of eighty-eight years.

OUR attention has been called to the fact that Dr. Emil A. Budde, whose death was announced in the issue of SCIENCE for November 18th, was president of the Electrotechnical Commission and not of the Electrochemical Commission as there stated. The succession of presidents of the Electrotechnical Commission has been Kelvin, Mascart, Elihu Thomson and Budde.

THE Royal Astronomical Society of Canada will meet in Toronto with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and will join in the program of Section D of the association.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE FUR SEALS OFF THE FARALLONS

So little is known regarding the whereabouts of the Alaska Fur Seals during the period of their absence from their breeding grounds on the Pribilof Islands, that the following definite record will be of interest.

The observations here recorded were made by Mr. John Kunder, at that time keeper of the Farallon Light Station, and communicated to me by Captain H. W. Rhodes, superintendent of lighthouses, 18th district, San Francisco.

Mr. Kunder states that on or about March 4, 1920, at 9 A.M. a herd of seals appeared about two miles due south of the Farallons. They presented a compact front line about three miles in length. They were about two miles away when first observed and were moving toward the island. They appeared to stop for a moment to gaze at the object at their front, then their left wing slowed down and the right moving rapidly, the seals jumping out of the water, the line veered around in regular military formation and a new line was formed which moved off in a west-northwest direction. After completing the new formation the herd moved very fast. The line was well-formed at all times, there being few or no stragglers.

When first seen approaching, Mr. Kunder